THE STANDARD-BEARER.

By S. R. CROCKETT. (Continued from last Sunday.)

XX. THE EYES OF A MAID. Now, inroughout all the parish, aye, and throughout all the parish, aye, and throughout all tolinoway, there was infinite more and brait of that things specially was there the burz of anger in the null parishes, where the men who had inn in the mose-hags and fought for the illectics dwen thickest—in tars pharm, in the Glenkens and in mine own failuraging.

Balmagnia.

As I went over the hill from farmtown to farm-town, the herds would cry
down a "Well done!" from among the
speep. Old men who had seen the high
days of the Eark before the fatal nonecoming of King Charles, rough, building
men, who had done their share of holing
and fighting in the troubles, young men,
who, like myself, had heard but the mirmar of the fray, came to shake my hand
and bid me strengthen my knees and
side to my testimony.

and not my testiment,
but sawtier was I more warmly welcomen than in the good house of Drumglass. The herd lads and ploughmen
were gothered at the house ead when I
came up the loaning, and as I passed one
of them came forward with his blue bontest in his kand.

pet in his hand. "Fear not, sir," he said, with a kind of hold, self-respecting diffuence. "I speak for all our lads with hearts and hands. We will light for you. Keep the worn of your testineny and we will sustain you and stand belind you. If ye will unfurt the bine humer again, we will plant deep the serious."

And from the little group of stalwart men at the barn-end there came a low mutmur of correlaration, "We will up-

Strange is it today to think on these things, when most non are so takewarm for principle. But in those days the embers of the fires of persecution were yet warm and glowing, and men knew that they might again be blown up and fresh fuel added thereto.

fresh fuel added thereto.

"Louise awa," cried agiting Gemmell, heartily, from where he sat on the great onber beach of moss-mak by the door-cheek, worn smooth by generations of sitters; "come awa," minister, and tell us the news. Faith, it makes me young like again to hearthat there is still a minister and that tranks on the Governants and the tone banner wi' the white cross. And though they forget the ame man in a new force of the tone of full barner wi' the white cross. And though they forget the ame man to the force of the tone of full barner and con the streets of the tone of full barner and one the streets of the tone of full barner and one the following, the three washa a sidder dare show his face, nor a King's man to be found between the castle and

saider dare show his face, nor a King's man to be loaned between the castle and the Boly frost bouse. Heen-how-aye' add Dunglass has seen that.

Then we went in, and by the Breside, looking very wisefully out of her meck eyes at use almost the young lass, Jean Germaell, saying no word, but the Lears stall weton her lashes why I know not. And she independ as her father acked of the doings at the Presbytery, and looked eager and anxious withe I was inswering.

Presently her father went forth on some grand about the work of the plough lads, and the lass and I were left together in the wide kitchen.

And they will put you forth out of house

and they wal put you introduced to looke and being of the award reformant eyes, the eyes of a mourning dove. She stood by the angle of the hearth where the broad seat begins. It was already upon the gray servage of the dark when I strode up the manuse loaning that of the dark with my brother. It was not often the with my brother, it was not often that I took it on me to question him. For, and the blook that went and came for

comely has she was, with the pale cheeks and the blank that went and came responsive to the bearing of her heart.

I had not answered being busy with looking at her and thimling that I wished but a plain country had with my wite a plain country had with my wite a little as this has. So she asked againstile as this has. So she asked againstile will not put you forth from your Kirk and parish, will they."

"Nay, that I know not!" I said, smiling-doubless they will try."

I found my brother in the little gable-room, with the window open, that he might Nay, that I know not!" I said, smiling, it

Then I told her, being stirted within me by her emotion, of the two who had stood by me in the Presbytery, and how little hope I had that they would see it out to the end. "The a fight that I must right alone?" I said. For I knew well that it would come to that, and that so soon as the affair went past words, those two who had shool at may shoulder would fall betind or be con-tent to hade snugly at home.

tent to lide snugly at home.

"Not atone." sain the young lass, quick15, and moved a step toward me with her
hand heid out. Then, with a deep and
hurning blush, her spatten modesty checked
her and she stood, red like a July rose in
the clear morning.

She swayed as if she would have faller,
and learner on quickly, Learent her in my

and leaping up quickly, I caught her in my arms ere she had time to fall.

arms ere she had time to fall.
Her even were closed and the blood had enbed from her face and left her pale to the very laps. I stood with her light weight in my gram, furthing strangely. For novel woman had lain there before. For hever woman had lain there before. Presently she gave a long, snatching breath and opened her eyes. I saw the tears gather in them as her head say still in the nodes of my arm. The drops did not fall, but gatinged slowly like wells that are fed from beneath.

"You will not go away?" she said, and at last afted her lindes, with a little pearl stining wet on each, as a swallow that has dipped her wings in a pool.

Then, because I could not help it, I

did that which I had never done to an Well street eyes, and then, ere I knew it, with a little err of frightened joy, the giff's areas were about me and she lifted up her fare and kissed me again and again

When I came to myself, I was conscious of another presence in the kitchen. I looked up quickly, and there, before the, standing with a switch awaying in her band, was Alexander-Jonita. appeared that she could have looked she said as if waiting for my

I love your sister." I said, for indeed, though I had not thought thus of thematter before, there seemed nothing else to be

but the face of Alexander-Jonita did

Jenu," spe said at last, "knowing that

The girl lifted her head and looked at Joetta with a kind of glad definace. "Sleer," she said, "you do not under-stand lave. You do not know what one Would do for love.

"You love my sister Jean" she said, roling to the with a sharpness in her ords like the pricking of a needle's "Yes" I answered, but perhaps a little

"and you know as much when you came into the kitchen?".

into the kitchen?".
"No," said I.
For, indeed, I knew not what to say, never having been thus tangled up with women's affairs in my life before.
"I thought not," said Jonita, curtly. Then turning to Jean, "How did this come about? she asked.
Joan lifted her head, her face hily pate and her lody swaying a little to me.
"I thought he women to away and that I

"I thought he would go away and that I mild never see him again," she said, a

"And you did this knowing what you know?" and donta shorily. "Ye ken well that ye are not fit to be."
"She is fit to be my wife," I said, for I

thought that this had gone far enough

Will a little joyful cry Jean Geunnell's arms went about my neck, and her wet face was fadden in my breast.

Alexander-lenits lifted up her bunds in hopdess pratest. She seemed about to say more, but all supposity she changed her mine.

"Bo be it," she said. "After all, cus none of my business."
And with that she turned and went through the door of the kitoffen. THE ANGER OF ALEXANDER JONITA.

(Comment and addition by Hob Mac Clei-

I met my lass Jonita that night by

the sheepfold on the hill. It was not yet suncovn, but the spaces of the heavens had slowly grown large and vague. I had been wasting a long time for derere I heard her come, lissonly springing from tuft to tuft of grass find wallsting that boing dance tune. "The froom of the Cowden kind wes." But even beliefe I looked up. I caught the trouble in her tones. She whisted more shrilly than usual and the liquid fluting of her notes, mellow incostly as those of the blackford, had not a mangry ring.

"What is the matter, Alexander-Jomian" I check ere I had set eyes on her.

miar I cried ere I has set eyes on her.
"Why, our silly Jean has made eyes
at your brother and let the salt water
fail on the breast of his Mack minister's
coat. And the call declares that he loves
her?"

A stood up in sharp surprise "He no more loves her than—than—"
"Than you love me," said AlexanderJonata. "I know; drive on!"
I did not notice ber.
"Why, Jonata, he has all his life been
in love with the Lady Mary—the Bull of
Earlslone a dangerite."

Earlstonn's daugnter."

Alexander-Joanta modded pensively.

Even so I thought, she said, but as I guess, she has sent him about his business, and so he has been taken with poor Jean's pulling pussydom. God forgive me, has I seem a pulling pussydom. that I should say as much of a dying a dying woman!" cried I, "there is

A dying woman!" cried I, "there is nothing the matter with Jean?"
Alexander-Jonita shook her head.
"Jean is not long for this world," she said. "I bin you remember. Saw you ever the red leap through the white like you, save when the life burned fast to the assess and the palse beat even more light and weak."

"And now long hath this thing been about?" "since the day of your brother's first preaching, when, to save her shoon, she must needs go batefoot and wash her feet in the born that slips nown by the kirk-yard wall."

That was the day Quintin first spoke with her, when she gave him her moning piece of bread to stay his hunger,"
Aye, said Alexander-Jonna, "better had he gone hungry all sermon-time than eaten of our Jean's piece."
"For shame, Alexander Jonna," I cried,

For shame, Alexander Jonita," I cried, "and a double shame to speak thus of a lassic that is, as you say, dying on her feet—and your sister foreye. I believe that ye are but jealous!"

She flamed up in sudden anger, "Get out of our ewe-buchts hefore I twist your neck, Hob Mac Chellan;" she cried, "I

care not a docken for any man affec-least of all for you and your hother. I thought from what I heard of ms comes at the presoytery that in was more of a min than any of you. But mw I see he is feedless and feedle like the rest."

"Ah, Jouita, you snooded folk tame us all. From David the King to Hob MacClellan, there is no man so wise but a woman may the him in knots about her strict finer." her little finger."
"I thought better of your brother,"

she said, ar ranger dying away as soldenty as it had used, and I think she sighed. "But not butter of me." I said. She looked at me with contempt, but yet a contempt mightly pleasant.

"Good e ") to ye," she cried, "I was not so far left to myself as to think about you at any." you at all?"
And she took her light plaid over her arm with a saucyiel swirt, and whisting on her dogs, she swing down the hill, carrying her shoolders squared and

her nead in the air like a young conceited birdle going to see his sweetheart.

It was already upon the gray servage of the dark when I strode up the manse-haning, intent to have the matter out forthwith with my brother. It was not often that I look it on the to make the like it.

I found my brother in the little gableroam, with the window open, that he might
hear the sough of the soft-flowing river
beneath, and perianys also that the drowsy
hum of the bees and the sweet sour sinell
of the hives might drift into him on the
baimy air of night.
He had agreat black-lettered book propped
before him, which, from its apright thick
and thin letters like pensitics ditblied in
the ground. I knew to be Hebrew, that I
do not think he read its it, nor gathered
mich lear for his Sabbath sermon.
He looked up as I came in.

He looked up as I came in.
"Quintin," said I, directly, less by wait-ing I should lose courage, "are you to marry lean Geomeelt?"

ean Gemmell?"

He kept his eyes straight upon me, as need be did ever to any with whom he

space.
"Aye. Bob." he said quietly, "have ye any word to say to that?"
"I do not know that I have." I answered. "but what will Mary Gordon say?" I could see him wince like one that is uched on an unhealed wound. But he re-overed himself at once and said calledy, sue will say nothing, feet nothing, care

"I am none so sure of that," said I, look

rie started up, his one hand on the table us long hair thrown back with a certain ork he had when he was fouched, which made burn look like a roused line. By what right do ye say that, Hob Mac

"By the right of that which I know," aid I; but a man who will pull up the ced which he has just planted and cast away because he fonts not ripened cars. eserves to starve on spronted and mosty

Riddle me no riddles," said my brother knocking on the table with his pain till the great Hebrew book slid from its prop and fell heavily to the floor; "this is too terribly a venture. Speak plainty and tell me all you mean."

Well." said I. "the matter is not all ine to tell. But you are well aware that can hold my peace and am no gossip-onger. I tell you that when you went ron Earlstoun the last time the Lady Mary cent to the battlement tower to watch you, and came down with her kerchief wring-ing with her tears."

ng with her teats."
"It is a thing impossible, mad, incredible," said he, putting his cibow on the Lable and his hand to his eyes as if he had been looking into the glare of an overpowing sun. Yet there was hardly enough light

"That," said I, blundly, "is not a matter hat can concern you. But know it I do r I should not have troubled you with the

matter."

He gave a wild kind of throat cry that I never heard before. It was the driven throatle cry of a man's agony—once heard, never forgotten. Would that Mary Gordon had heard it! It is the one thing mo woman can stand. It either melts or terrifes her. But with another man it is alternated.

'Ab, you have troubled me-you have "Ab, you have troubled me-you have troubled me sore" he cried. And, with no more than that, he left me and went out into the night. I looked through the window and saw him marching up and down by the kirk on a strip or green eward for which he had ever a liking. It was pitful to watch him. He walked fast like one that would run away from metanchely thoughts turning ever when he came opposite the low tombstone of the two marrier Ballidays. He was hare-headed, and I feared the night dews. So I lifted down his minister's hat from the deer's born by the hallan door and took

deer's born by the hallan door and took it out to bim. At first he did not see me, and it was mly when a couple of blackbirds flew colding out of the blackbirds that he

canding out of the mac busines that he card my foot and turned.

"Man Bob," he said, speaking just as a used to do at Ardarroch, before ever a went to the college of Edintorgh, "han a wife" thing that a man should care hair for the guid word o' a lass than boutthe graces o' God and the Covenanted like of Scotland!" Kirk of Scotland!"

> AT BAY. XXII.

XXII.

(The Narratice of Quintin Mac Clelland is resumed.)

Dark was the day, darker the night. The matters which had sundered me from the prestylesy included not, not indeed was it possible to mend them, seeing that they and it would different reds, followed other nd I served different gods, followed other purposes.
It was block December when the brethren

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A Helphess 6, en a stre Victim Cured.

A Helpitess in curvature Victim Cured. Surah E. Terrell, 1226 Twelfth street northwest, Wassington, D. C., says: "I had rhemantism in its worst form. I was perfectly helpiess, and could not nove than in bet. I had five of the best physicians in the city, but they gave no no relief, was induced to try slunyon's Ricemantism care, and four small vints of that wonderful remedy made a complete cure. I have had no use for a doctor since. Manyon's Guide to Health is all I need. Buring my absence from home my ten-year-old boy was also taken with inframinatory ricemontism, and upon my return' I gave him Munyon's Kennedy for that discuss, and the boy soon reconversed. Although that is four years ago be has had in trouble since, we are daily recommending Munyon's Remedies."

We are daily recommenting Manyon's Rencelles."
Miss Eda C. Fabreabruch, No. 1235 Sixth
street northwest. Washington, D. C., Says.
"I was a great sufferer from rhemunitism,
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of the presbytery arrived to make an end of the and my work in the parish of Balmaghie. They came with their minds made up. They were my accusers. They were also my judges. As for me, I was as set and as determined as they were. I refused their jurisdiction. I contemped their authority. To me they were but miles in the cheese, batteners on the heritage and patrimony of the Kirk of Scotland.

I was to them may one thouseful fisher, the disturber of a quiet Zion. Save for quintin Mac Chellan, the watchman might have gone from tower to tower abing ranquarts covered and defended, and its challenge of "What of the Night," have received its fitting answer from this point.

eceived its futing answer from this point

received its fitting answer from this point, and that about the city. "All is well."

Yet because of the Lad in the Brown tout with his dead face sunk in the demand thows, I could not consent to justing it wirk of Scotland, free and independent in the the control, real or noting in the atherity covertor latent, of any manarch in the interded.

alore than to my fathers, more than to my closes, it seemed to me that the old wars were the true ways, and that kings and governments and never meddle with religion save to lay waste the vinc

with religion save to my waste the time grand and man the brinal portion of the Kirk of God.

But all men know the cause of the strug-gle and what were the issues. I will tell the fate of a man's shane and sorrow-mine, who had taken the Banner of the name, who had taken the banner of the Covenant into unworthy hands, set three after time let it fall in the dust. Neverthe-less at the hinder end, I lived to see it set again in a strong lase of lown stone, fixed as the foundations of the earth. Nor shall he golden scroll of it ever be defaced, or he Covenant of the King of Kings be

So on the day of trial from all the parishes of the presbytery, east and west, gathered the men who were to be my judges—uay. the men who were to be my judges—may, the men who were already my condemnators. For Cameron had my sentence in his pocket before ever one of the brethren set a foot across his dootstep, or threw a leg across the back of his shambling sheltle.

I had judged it best to be quiet and staid in demeanor and had gone about to quiet and persunde the folk of Bahmaghie who were eager to hold back the hinters from their prey.

The preservery had sent to bid me.

The presbyiery had sent to bid me preach before them, even as the solders of the guard had bidden Christ prophesy anto them that they might have occasion to smite him the oftener on the mouth. So when they came they had posed me with interrogatories, threatened me with penal-ties, and finally set me to conduct service before them. that they might either con-demn me if I refused, alleging conti-macy, or on the other hand if I did as they bade me, they could easily find ocasion to condmen the words of my month

But I saw that though there was no way to escape their malice, yet was there a way to serve the cause. So I went up into the pulpit after the

So I went up into the pupit after the folk had been assembled, and addressed myself to them just as if it had been a sabbath day and the company met only for the worship of God.

For I minded the word which my good regent, Dr. Campbell, had spoken to me in Edinburgh ere I was licensed to preach, or knew that one day I myself should be or knew that one day I myself should be

"When ye preach," said Prof. Campbell, be sure that ye heed not the five wise men." So I minded that word, and seeing the folk gathered together, I cost my heavy

turden from me and called them earnessly to the worship of Him Who is above all ourts and assemblies. Then came in Cameron, the leader of their Then came in Cameron, the leader of their faction, jowled with determination and row-gailed with the good cheer and the claret wine of St. Mary's Isle. With him was Boyd, also a renegade from the Society Hull folk. For with their scanby funds the men of the moss hags had sent these two as students to Holland to gather lear and to be their ministers. And now when they had gotten comfortable down-sittings in plente-ous parishes, they turned with the bitter zest of the turncoal to the hunting of one who adhered to their own ancient way.

way.

Then, when at the last I stood single and alone at their bar, and was ready to answer their questions, they could bring nothing against me, save that I had refused their jurisdiction. Their suborned witnesses failed them. For there was none in all the parish who wished me all—and certainly none that dared testify a word in the midst of the anary people that day in the Kirk of Balmaghie.

"Have ye maught to allege against my

Have ye naught to allege against my

life and conduct?" I asked of them at last. "Ye have set spies to follow me from place to place and wrest my words. Ye have spied here and there in the houses of my people. Ye have tried to entrap my ciders. Is there no least thing that ye can allege. For three years I have come and gone in and out among this folk of Bahnagbie. I have companied with you. I have sat in your incettings. I have not been silent. Ye have watched me with the eyes of the greedy gied. Ye have harkened and wanted, and sharpened claws for in: as a tat toos at a mouse hole. ""

"Will ye saturat and sign the submission here and now?" interrupted Cameron, who liked not the threatening murmur of approbation which began to run among the folk.

"There is One," answered I, the words

approvation which began to run among the folk.

"There is One," answered I, the words being as it had been given to me, "whose praise is perfected out of the ments of babes. It is true that among you I am like a young child without pe wer or wisdom. Yearcyreat and learned, old in years and full of reverence. But this one thing I can do. I stand by the truth ye have deserted, and lift again the banner staff ye have cast in the mire. As great Kutherford bath said, 'thrist may ride upon a windlestraw and not stamble."

Then I turned about to the people, when the Presbyter's would have restrained me from further speech to these.

"Ye tolk of this parish," I said, "what think ye of this matter? Shall your minister be thrust out from among you? Shall be bow thehead and nend the knee? Must he ler principle and truth go by the board? I think ye know him better. Aye, truly, this parish and people would have a bonny bird of him, a brave minister, indeed, if he submiffied before being cleared of that which, all unjustly, his enemies have accused him, setting him up in the presence of his people like a fels in the dock of judgment?

Then indeed here was confusion among the rayers who had come to girat over

dock of judgment!"
Then indeed there was confusion among the ravens who had come to girat over the reast. I had insulted so they cried) their honorable and reverent court. I had crimed a too lement and condess enting accommodation. So they spoke, as it long words would balance the beam of an united cause.

not cause.

not at that moment there came a stir among the folk. I saw the elders of the congregation appear at the door of the kirk. And as they marched up the aisle, behind them thronged all the men of the parish, a still, stern and compact mass.

nass.

I men the ruling elder read the protest
of the common people. It was simple and
dear. The parish was wholly with me of the common people. It was simple and clear. The parish was wholly with me and not with mine engines. Almost every man within the bounds had signed the paper. The presbytery right defose the minister, but the people would uphold idm. Every man in Falmaghle knew well that their paster suffered because he had steadfastly preferred truth to compromise, bonor to pelf, conscience to stipend. The presbytery themselves had sworn to uphold that which no whey coedenated.

"Are ye who present this paper ordained clusts of the kirk," asked I shoeton of the landers, glowering angrily at them.

"We are," responded Nathan Gemmell, stoutly.

'And ye dare to bring a railing accusation And ye dare to syring a raming accessions in gausst the ministers of your preshytery."
"We are free men staling elders. You on your part are but teaching elders, and, save for the authority of the state, ye are no-ways in authority over us." was the un-And who are they for whom we pro

They'are here to speak for themselves!

he cried and as he waved his hind the kirk was filled from end to end with stat-wart near, who should up, rank behind rank all very grave and quiet.

I saw the ministers cower together. This was not at all what they had bargained

"We are to be deforced and overawed." shid Cameron. 'Let us disperse today and meet temerow in the Kirk of Crossinicanel over the water. And lo! it was done—even as their leader

said. They summoned me to meet them of the morrow in the Kirk of Crossmichae that I might receive my doom.

XXIII.

MARY GORDON'S LAST WORD. The next day was the Soun of December, a day of Differ frost, so that the Incelloce over, and the way which Hind been broken for the hours to ferry the pressyony across from the dangerous tounds of out across from the dangerous bounds of bal-maghie was again flued with foating rec. The Kirk of Crossinchael sits, the that of baltingsite, on g but above her water. One house of prayer fronts the other, and the worte Kirk pard shones greet each other across the river, tening the one story of earth to earth. And every satisfath day across the singuish stream two souns of praise go up to heaven in united aspira-tion toward one Eternal Faction.

But this 30th of December there was small commingly of lofty rem walp across the water in Crossinichael. It was to me of all days the day bitterest and blackest.

all days the day bitterest and blacker I have, indeed, good cause to remember it rneu, there was no hope of any outcome wared from their prey for a moment by the stern threatening of the folk of the parish. The People's Paper, in particular, and frightened them like a scattence of death. Bufnow they were free to make an

My brother Hob was keen to head a band pleaged to keep them out of Crosspatrick Kirk also. But I forbade them to cross the water.

Though the former stress of trial was Though the former stress of trial was over, this cay of quiet was far harder to bear than the day before. For then, with the excitation of battle, the planning of the people, the quick necessities of verial defense against many adversaries, my spirits were kept up. But now there was none in the manse beside myself, and I took to wandering up and down the little kirk bearing; thinking how that by this time the presbytery was use to speed my doom, and that the pleasant place which knew menow, would soon know ma no more new menow, would soon know me no more

As I lingured at the road end, thinking how much I would have given for
a heartening word, and vaguely resolving to betake me over to the house of
brunglass, where, at the least, I was
sure of companicuship and consolation,
I chanced to cast my eyes to the southward, and there along the light gray
riverside track I saw a ladyriding.

As she came nearer, I saw that it
was pone other than Mistress Mary Gordon. I thought I had never seen her look
winsomer—a lissom form, a perfect eat,
a dainty and well-ordered carringe
I stood still where I was and waited
for her to pass me. I had my hat in my
band, and I counted on nothing but that As I lingered at the road end, think

hand, and I counted on nothing but that she should ride by me as though she say

on the contrary, she reined her and sat waiting for me to speak

with her.
So I went to her bride rein and looked up at her face, and lol it was kindlier than ever I had seen it before, with a sort of loving pity on it which I found it very hard to bear.
"Will you let me walk by your side a little way?" I asked of her. For, as we had parted without a farewell, so, on this bitterest day, we not again without a greeting. Lady Mary," I said at last, "I have

gone through much since I went from your house of Earlstonn. We parted in anger but let us meet in peace. I am a man out-cast and friendless, save for these foolish few in this parish, who, to their cost, have made my quarrel theirs." She looked kindly down upon me, and paused a little before she spoke.

"Quintin," she said, "there is no anger in my heart. There is only a great woe. I have come from the place of Balmaghie, where my Cousin Kate, of Lochinvar, waits

her good father's passing."
"And ride you home to the Earlstoun?" I asked. "Aye," she said a little wistfully. And the saying cheered use. For this river way was not the gur's straight road homeward, and it came to me that Mary Gordon had wished to meet and comfort me in my sor-

row.

"My father is abroad, we know not well where," she said, "or he would gladly support you in the way that you have chosen. Perhaps your way is not my way, but it must be a good way of its kind, the way of a man's conscience." a man's conscience."

She reached down a hand to me, which I took and pressed gratefully enough:

It was then that we came in sight of
the white house of Drumglass, sitting
above the water-meadows. At the first

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dimpse of it she drew away her hand from "Is it true," she said, "that which I have been told, that you are to wed a daughter of that house."

daughter of that house?"

I inclined my head without speech. I knew that the bitterest part of my punishment was now upon me.
"And did you come straight from the Earlston to offer her also your position,

your good manse, your income, good as that of any laird?" of any laird?"

We had stopped in a sheltered place
by the river where the hazel bushes are
many and the gorse grows long, mingling
with the broom and the fringing looy myrtle.

"My Lady Mary," said I. after a pause, "I offered her not anything. I had noth-ing to offer. But she jet me see the warmth of her heart and I had none other con-fort!"

"Then upon this day of days why are you not by her side, that her love may have the smart of your bitter outcast-

In yonder kirk they work my doom, "In fonder kirs toey wors my foom, said I, pointing over the water, "and ere another sun rises I shall be no more minister of Balmaghie, but a homeless man, without either a roof-tree or a resking ingle. I have nothing to offer any woman, why should I claim this day any woman's least."

cet look, "it is her hour. For if she loves you she would flee today to share your dry crust, your sapless bite. See," she cried, stretching out her hand with a large action, "if I loved a man, I would follow him in my sark to the world's end. If so be his eyes had looked the deathless love not mine his tongue told the of love, love no mine, his tongue told me of love, love non mine, his tongue told me of love, love —only of love. Ah, that alone is worth calling love which feeds full on the accrus of life and grows justy on misfortune."

"Ledy Mary—," I began.
But she interrupted me, dishing her hand buritiely to her face.
She request un lowered the borse of

She pointed up toward the house of Drumglass. Praniglass.

"Yonder lies your way. Go to the woman you love—who loves you."

She lifted the reins from her horse's neck, and would have started forward, but again I had gotten her hand. I bent and kneed it without a word, reverently and sadly, as one kisses the brow of the dead.

dead.

She moved away without anger and with her eyes downcast. But on the sammit of a little hill she half turned. about in her saddle and spoke a stringe

"Quintin," she said, "wherefore could ye not have waited? Wherefore kenned ye no better than to take a woman at And with that she set the spins to And with that she set the spins to ber bens and went up the road towar; the ford at the gallop, till almost I reared to watch her.

For a long time I stood sadly smough looking after her. And I grant that me heart was like lead. My spirit had no power in it. I cried out to God to let me die Forlt was scarce fairthing that she hadd.

should have spoken that word when it was too late, But this 30th of December had yet more in store for me. The die was yet to be dinted deeper into my heart. (To Be Continued.)

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